

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Kincaid Project Group****Project Title:**

# Kincaid Project Group - Regional Recreational Infrastructure Projects

**State Funding Requested: \$ 1,000,000**  
One-Time Need**House District: Anchorage Areawide (17-32)****Brief Project Description:**

This project will complete the Kincaid Park Master Plan

**Funding Plan:****Total Cost of Project: \$1,000,000**Funding Secured*Amount FY*Other Pending Requests*Amount FY*Anticipated Future Need*Amount FY*

There is no other funding needed

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

This project will complete the Kincaid Park Master Plan by adding seven irrigated and competition level natural turf soccer fields; a 2,000 seat stadium with an artificial turf field; 3.75 kilometer paved Nordic trail with snow-making system; a new biathlon stadium; and an 18 hole disc golf course.

**Project Timeline:**

FY 09

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Municipality of Anchorage

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Contact Name: Dave Parish  
Phone Number: 907-463-2523  
Address:  
Email:

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No

**2008 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM  
MUNICIPAL PRIORITY ISSUES  
*Capital Budget*  
**Parks & Recreation****

**PROJECT NAME:** Kincaid Athletic Fields

**PROJECT TYPE:** Community Enhancement

**GRANT REQUEST:** \$2,000,000

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

This project will complete the Kincaid Park Master Plan by adding seven irrigated and competition level natural turf soccer fields; a 2,000 seat stadium with an artificial turf field; 3.75 kilometer paved Nordic trail with snow-making system; a new biathlon stadium; and an 18 hole disc golf course. Kincaid Project Group (KPG), a private non-profit, has raised nearly \$4 million to date towards their goal of \$10 million total. This total includes a \$1 million maintenance and operation endowment.

**COMMENTS:**

The MOA Parks and Recreation Commission endorsed the KPG improvements at its September 7, 2006 meeting. The Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage and Anchorage District Soccer Federation are strong supporters of the planned improvements. Kincaid Park is one of Anchorage's major outdoor recreation centers with over 1,000 acres of forest and over 100 miles of trails. The park is best known for the world class Nordic Skiing and Biathlon facilities that have hosted national and international events. The vision for Kincaid Park is to transform it into a world-class cross country skiing facility in the winter, while also serving bicyclists, hikers, disc golfers, and soccer players, and other recreational users during the rest of the year. Paved trails are needed for spring/summer/fall ski training when there is no snow.

To date this project has received \$2.7 million in state and federal funding; \$970,000 in private and corporate donations; and \$370,000 in in-kind contributions. The Rasmuson Foundation has awarded KPG a \$2 million challenge grant that requires a 1 to 3 match.

**JUSTIFICATION:**

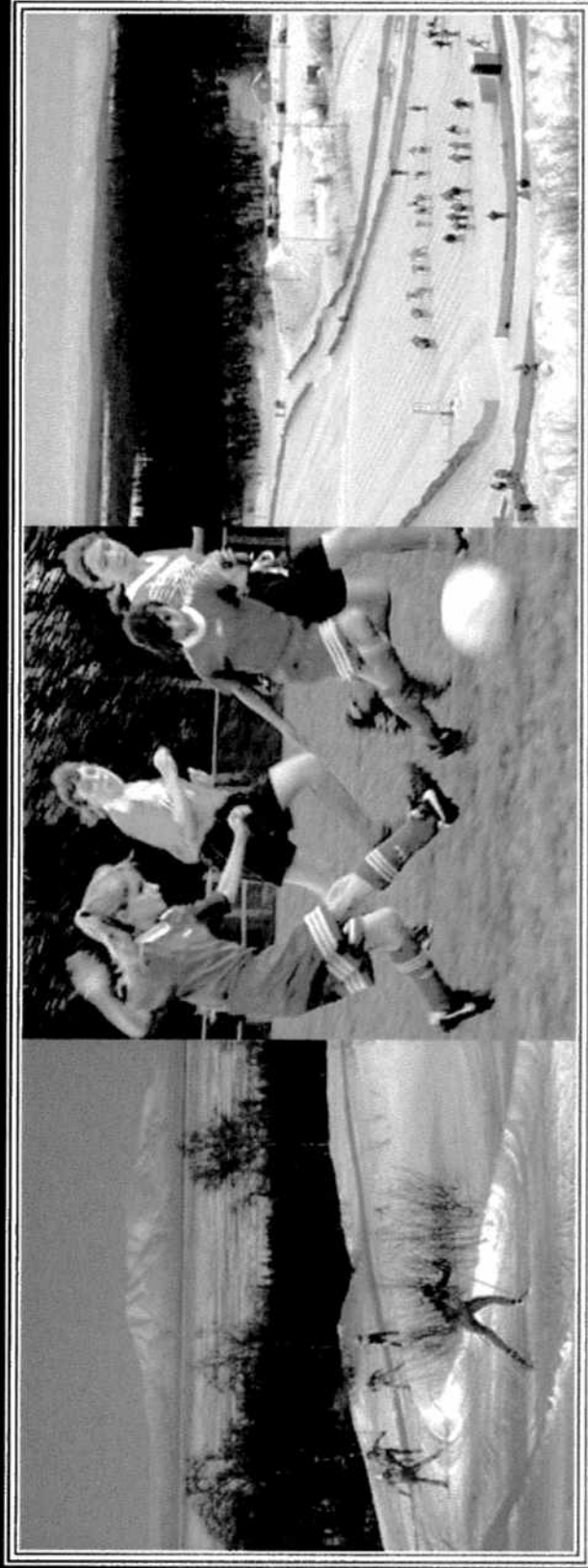
The MOA Parks and Recreation Commission endorsed the KPG improvements at its September 7, 2006 meeting. The Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage and Anchorage District Soccer Federation are strong supporters of the planned improvements. The park has over 1 million visitors each year and hosts a number of statewide, national, and international Nordic and Cross Country running events which provides economic development to the region through hotel and visitor expenditures. Adding 8 competition soccer fields in one location will enable Anchorage to compete for regional and national soccer tournaments, adding millions to the Anchorage economy.

**Legislative District(s)**

**House:** District 27N-Anchorage Areawide

**Community Council(s):** Anchorage Areawide.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mary Jane Michael, Executive Director; Office of Economic and Community Development; 343-4365



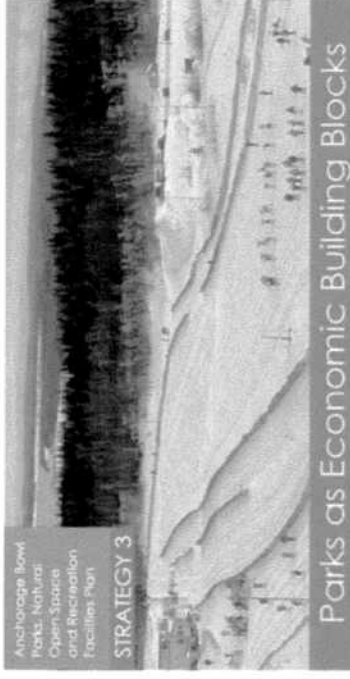
# KINCAID PROJECT GROUP

Create World Class, Year Round Recreational Facilities at Kincaid Park for the Benefit of Anchorage and the Greater Alaskan Community

*Summer and Winter Recreation  
Improvements*

# Kincaid Project Group

- Kincaid Project Group is a 501c3
- A joint public & privately funded project:
  - federal, state, municipal, corporate and private sources
- Focus on winter and summer recreation including competition level enthusiasts
- All volunteer board
  - David Parish
  - Ed Hendrickson
  - Dick Mize
  - Wm. Dwayne Adams, Jr.
  - Jim Kubitz
  - Rachel Steer
  - Fred Stutzer
  - Roger Benedict
  - Peter Van Tuyn



Anchorage Bowl  
Parks: Natural  
Open Space  
and Recreation  
Facilities Plan

STRATEGY 3

## Parks as Economic Building Blocks

Parks should be thought of not only as a vital community service, but also as economic building blocks. The business community needs to see and support this concept. Large and small businesses benefit from parks through quality of life they provide employees. When businesses relocate, quality of life is high on their list of priorities, and there is no better indicator of quality of life than our parks. Parks increase property values and raise additional revenues for the municipality through increased property taxes. Visitors are attracted to extend their stay in the community increasing revenues to local businesses as well as increasing municipal revenues through local taxes.

The parks and recreation department should establish a direct partnership with the Anchorage Convention and Visitors Bureau as well as other business organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, Anchorage Downtown Partnership and the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation. An Anchorage parks and trails brochure should be offered to every tourist that steps foot in the city. Tour operators should encourage their customers to spend an extra day enjoying and exploring Anchorage's parks and trails. Every business that contacts the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation should be provided with a parks and trails brochure.

Anchorage should partner with winter and summer athletic and event interests in the community to develop and promote high quality multiplex sports complexes for tournaments or elite level play. The sports complexes should be located in areas that are accessible to the general public. These complexes should be able to host state, regional, national and international events and tournaments potentially attracting thousands of visitors every year. In addition, these well-designed venues would be available to local residents most of the year thus increasing the number of regular season play and practice fields and allowing some of our existing fields either to be converted to other uses or to become more accessible to the general public. This approach would provide adequate fields for local residents while promoting increased tourism for Anchorage.

## Parks Strategic Framework:

- “Partner with winter and summer athletic and event interests...”
- “... explore investing in two or three high quality multiplex sports complexes...”

# Kincaid Park - A World Class Facility



## Our Mission

Create world class, year-round recreation opportunities at Kincaid Park for the benefit of Anchorage and the greater Alaskan community



# Driving Forces and Benefits

## ■ Recreation and Health

- Additional recreational opportunities promote and encourage healthy lifestyles



## ■ Improve/create new facilities

- Lack of snow, poor biathlon facility, shortage of soccer fields



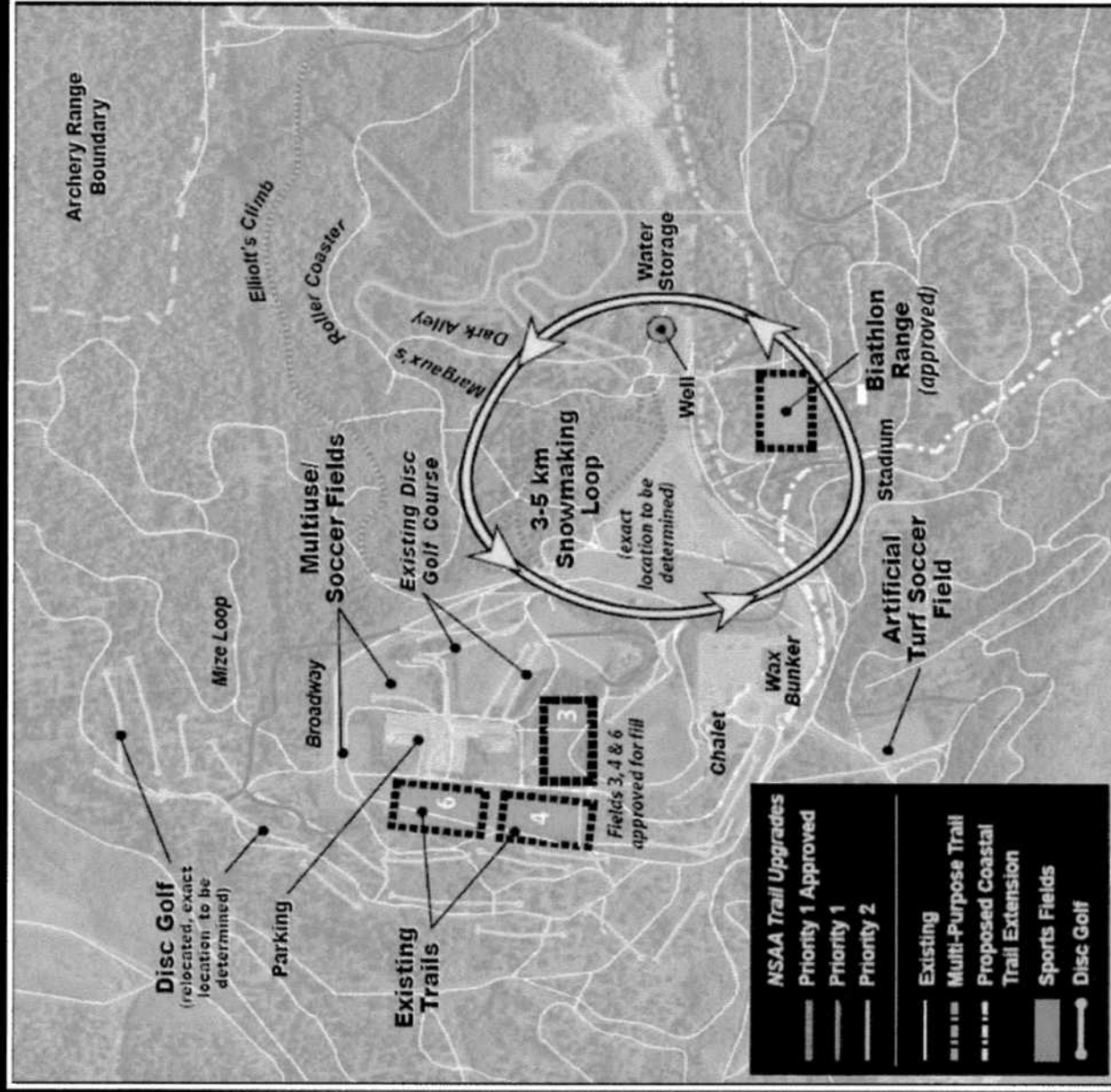
## ■ Economic Stimulus

- Opportunity to host national ski and soccer tournaments

# Elements of the project

- Relocate Biathlon Stadium
- 2.3 km + Snowmaking
- 7 Grass Soccer Fields
- 1 Artificial Turf Field
- 2.3 km Inner Lighted and Paved Ski Loop
- 3 km Overall Paved Training Loop
- New 18 Hole Disc Golf
- \$1 Million Maintenance Endowment Fund

**Total: \$10 Million**



# Biathlon Range Improvements

The old range is oriented poorly, has swirling winds, and does not connect well with the Kincaid trail system.



**New Biathlon Range**



*"Young biathletes cannot learn the fundamentals of biathlon at a range that is this windy"*

Rachel Steer  
Alaska Olympic biathlete



# Snowmaking Improvements

- 2003 National Master's Championships moved
- 2005 High School championships moved to Fairbanks
- 2005 and 2007 Lynxloppet race cancelled
- 2007 World Junior Biathlon trials cancelled
- 2007: 3 High School races cancelled. Limited practices

■ *Every decade has had races cancelled or moved due to lack of snow!*



## Benefits:

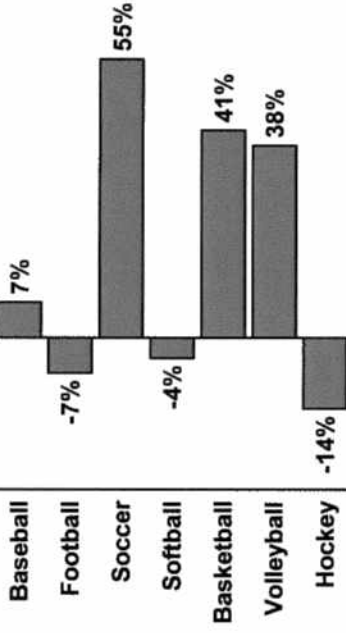
- Ski season would be extended by 1 to 2 months
- Many high caliber athletes could train in Anchorage
- Generates additional opportunities of economic stimulus

# Soccer

The fastest growing sport in America... and Anchorage

## Soccer Has Grown The Fastest

Sports Participation 2000-2005



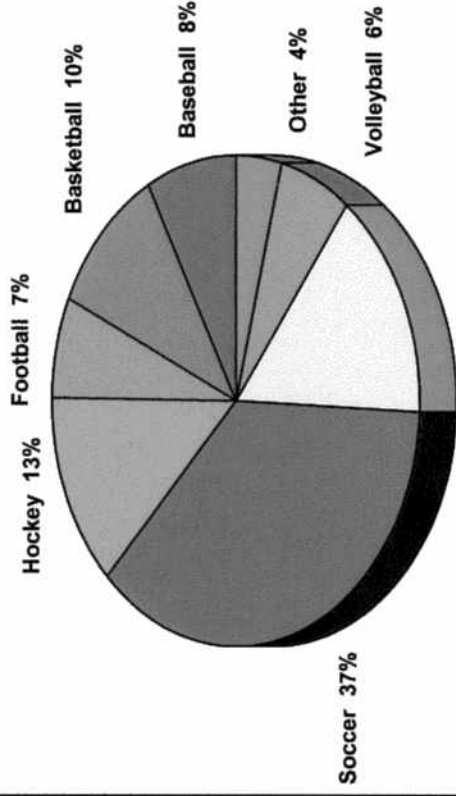
Source: MOA, Indoor and Outdoor Sports Participation Report, 2005.

*“Overall soccer participation in Anchorage has increased on average 16.4% over the last 5 years.”*

**Eppley Institute**  
A Nationally Recognized Parks Use  
Research Organization

*There are almost 13,000 registered soccer players in Anchorage*

## More Than One Third Of Anchorage's Sports Participants Are Soccer Players



Source: MOA, Sports Participation Report, 2005.

# Soccer needs

- Anchorage has a shortage of soccer fields (even including ASD fields).
  - 400 kids were denied the opportunity to play during the 2006 summer season
- The “Anchorage Bowl Parks, Natural Resource and Recreation Facilities Plan”
  - Identified the need for at least 16 additional soccer fields
  - Plan was approved by Planning and Zoning in August 2005



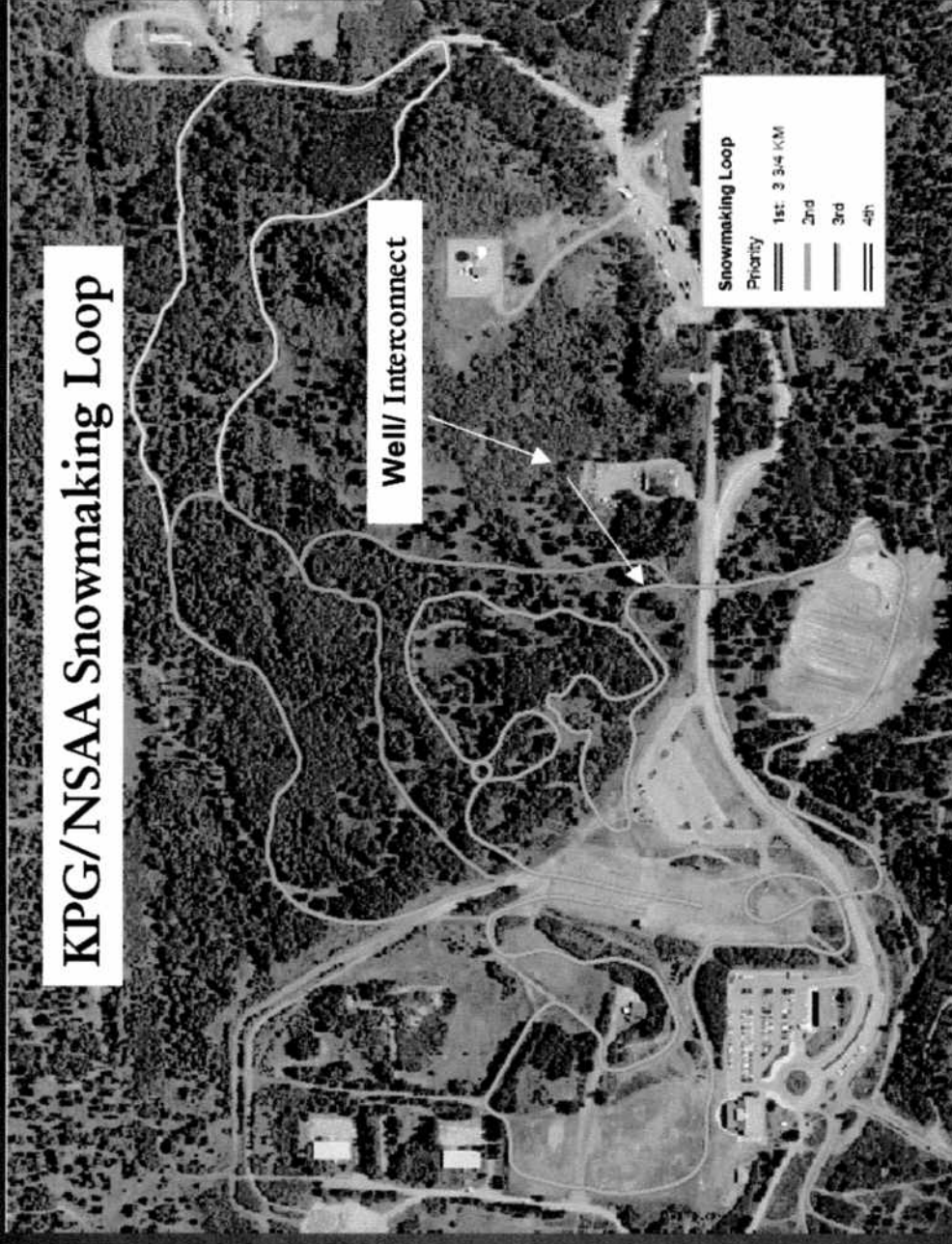
*The 8 proposed fields at Kincaid are a good start!*



# Progress Updates - Snowmaking

## 3.75 KM!

- EA Phase 1 and 2 complete
- Design complete
- HUD funds pending (Feb. '08)
- Well drilled before March 2008
- Install pipe summer 2008
- Winter 2008-09: Ready for use!



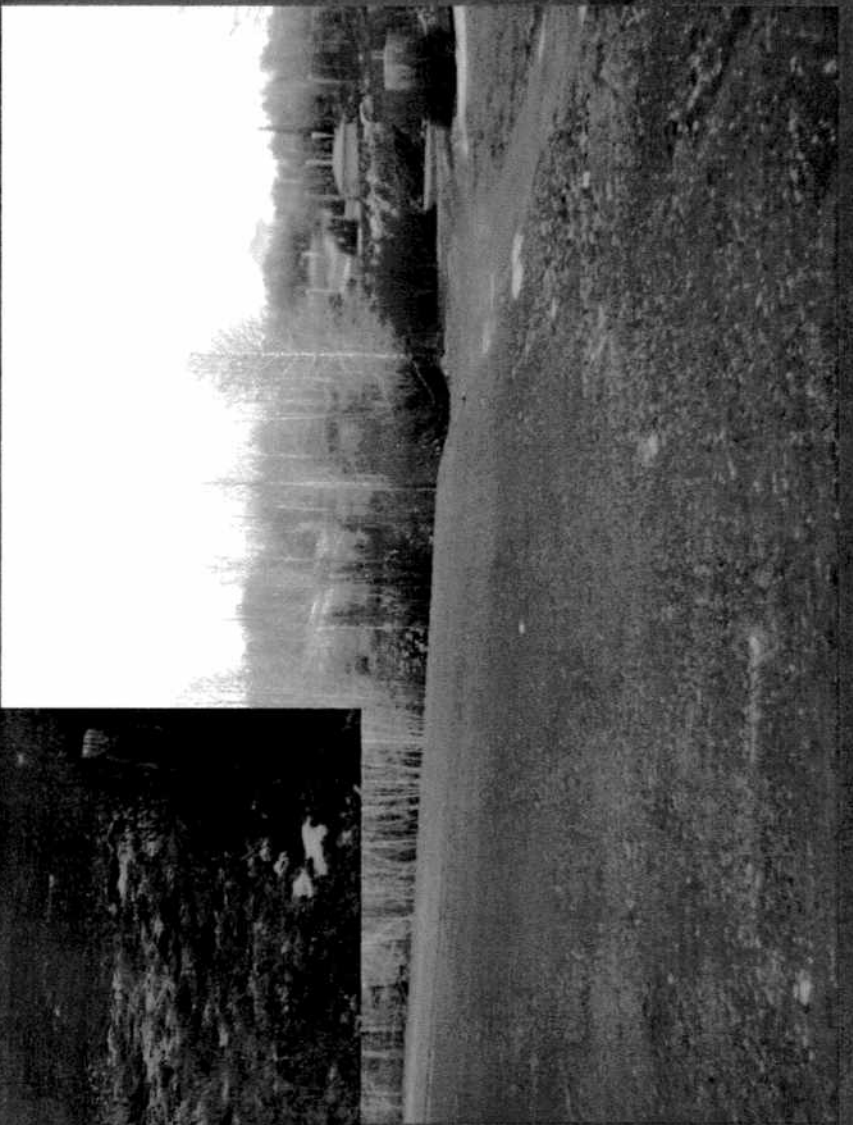


# Progress Updates - Soccer





- EA Phase 1 and 2 complete
- Grading permits received
- HUD funds pending
- Well drilled before March
- Seeding summer 2008
- Ready for play 2010!





# Fundraising Plan



Working Together

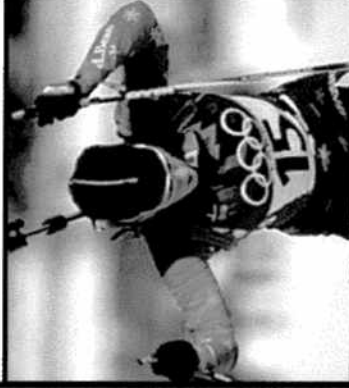
	<u>\$MM</u>
■ Funds Raised <small>(thru Dec 2007)</small>	\$3.9
■ 2007-2009	
■ Public (state/fed)	\$2.0
■ Foundations	\$2.2
■ Corporate	\$0.7
■ In-kind corporate	\$0.7
■ Individuals	<u>\$0.5</u>
■ Total	\$10MM



# A unique opportunity



Health & Recreation



Olympic Dreams

## ■ Address community need

- Enhance quality of life
  - Young or old
  - Elite or recreational

## ■ Generational investment in a true partnership

- Public and Private
- Contributions matched 2.5 to 1 by Rasmuson Foundation

## ■ Great recognition

- Naming Opportunities
- Kincaid hosts ~1 million visitors per year
  - National exposure